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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2144

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~AM~~
A.N.E. 1

Application No.: 09/740,542

Filed: December 18, 2000

Inventor(s):

John H. Howard, David
Robinson, and Randall D.
Rettberg

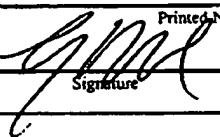
Title: Direct Access from Client
to Storage Device

§ Examiner: Gerezgiher, Yemane
§ M.
§ Group/Art Unit: 2144
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-59700

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with
the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first
class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for
Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the
date indicated below.

Lawrence J. Merkel

Printed Name



12/13/04

Date

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF
October 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Mailstop AF
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action of October 21, 2004, to
further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the case as listed below.